

# Greenways and Trails Tidbits

April 2006 Edition

## American Hiking Society (from their website) [www.americanhiking.org](http://www.americanhiking.org)

Put **June 3, 2006** on your calendar and get ready for **National Trail Day (NTD)**. In 2005, more than 1,100 events were held nationwide to celebrate and work on all kinds of trails. Join with thousands of trail users across the nation to celebrate NTD. Join the Metro Nashville Parks Department and the Cumberland Trail Conference to participate in an NTD event. To register your event for June 3, 2006, go to the American Hiking Society's webpage, . <http://www.americanhiking.org/events/ntd/index.html>

## TN. Dept. of Environment and Conservation - Division of Recreation Educational Services (RES)

The Commissioner's Council on Greenways and Trails held their quarterly meeting on March 1, 2006 at the L&C Tower. The Council heard a presentation on the Tennessee River Trail (TRT) organization that represents the 9 counties adjacent to the Tennessee River. For more information on the TRT, go to [www.tnrivertrails.com](http://www.tnrivertrails.com) . The Council also heard reports from the 3 committees, Off Highway Vehicle (OHV), Planning, and Education/ Communication.

The Education committee is excited to announce that it will be hosting two Greenways and Trails workshops in Nashville and Chattanooga. The title of both workshops is "Greenways and Trails...Healthy Challenges". Focus of the workshops is how to use Greenways and Trails to create healthy communities and as places for citizens to improve their physical fitness. The Nashville workshop is set for May 15, 2006 at the Scarritt Bennett Conference Center and will be held as a pre-conference session of the National Association of Recreation Resource Planners (NARRP) conference. The workshop will feature 3 morning sessions and an afternoon field trip to the newly opened Richland Creek Greenway trail. The Chattanooga workshop is scheduled for June 2, 2006 and will have a similar schedule. The afternoon field trip will feature a tour of the TN. River Park. For more information and to register for the workshops go to: <http://www.state.tn.us/environment/recreation/greentrails.php> .

The number 1 priority for the OHV committee is to work to get a helmet law passed for riders under the age of 18. The number 2 priority is to get funding to do an update of the 2002 OHV study looking at the impacts of OHV as a recreation activity. The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) has a pilot OHV project ongoing at the Royal Blue Wildlife Management Area.

The number 1 priority for the Planning committee is to create a new edition of the 1992 Recreation Trails Manual. The new edition will be called "Pathways to Trail Building" and will include basic information on the design and construction of non-motorized trails. A second project is working to create a sign for Greenways and Trails facilities that can be used statewide.

The next meeting of the Commissioner's Council on Greenways and Trails will be in Chattanooga on June 1, 2006.

## American Trails, <http://www.americantrails.org/>

The **18<sup>th</sup> National Trails Symposium** will be held in the Quad Cities of Iowa and Illinois on **October 19-22, 2006**. Hundreds of trail enthusiasts will gather at the magnificent Mississippi River to celebrate and learn about trail opportunities. If you have a candidate that has provided outstanding leadership concerning trails issues, nominate them for the American Trails' National Trails Awards Program. Deadline is May 31, 2006 and the nomination form is available at [www.americantrails.org/quad/awards.html](http://www.americantrails.org/quad/awards.html) .

## Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Recreation Trail Program (RTP)

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The FHWA RTP website: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/rectrails/index.htm> . For more information and funding sources for bicycle and pedestrian facilities go to: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/hep/bkepedtble.htm> . For more information on Equestrian trails go to: <http://www.elcr.org/> .

FHWA - RTP, in partnership with the USDA Forest Service Technology and Development Program, has many Forest Service Publications available to the public on the web and some are available in hard copy. Go to the website: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/rectrails/publications.htm> .

**Bicycle Ride Across Tennessee (BRAT)** <http://www.state.tn.us/environment/parks/BRAT/>

Planning has started for the 17<sup>th</sup> BRAT to be held **September 16 – 23, 2006** and the 2006 route will be in West Tennessee starting at Natchez Trace State Park. For more information, call Danny McCullough at 931-686-BIKE or go to the website listed above.

**Cumberland Trail Conference (from their website)** <http://www.cumberlandtrail.org/index.html>

The 2006 trail construction season has started with the Spring Breakaway program on the Rock/Possum/Soddy Creek section of the Cumberland Trail State Scenic Trail (CTSST). The goal for this spring/summer season is to finish the last 5 miles of trail and to build several trail bridges. Go to <http://www.cumberlandtrail.org/act.html> for the 2006 volunteer opportunities.

**International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA)** [www.imba.com](http://www.imba.com) (Fall 2005 Trail News)

The IMBA is pleased to announce that a scholarship program has been setup to help with conference registration fees for applicants to go to the June 20-23, 2006 IMBA Summit/World Mountain Bike Conference in Whistler, B.C. Everyone is eligible. For more information, go to [http://go.imba.com/site/R?i=AG6K9G3emjz1N-9n-q\\_3qQ](http://go.imba.com/site/R?i=AG6K9G3emjz1N-9n-q_3qQ).

*Information provided in this newsletter is taken from other sources and it is recommended that you go to those sources directly for complete information about an activity or event.*

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